



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

Drought Response Task Force Agency Report September 12, 2012

Office of Resource Conservation *Division of Fisheries*

Fish kills on private ponds continue to be reported throughout the state. With the higher flows on our rivers and streams, no new reports of kills have been received.

Office of Water Resources

The following map shows stream gages where flows have fallen below the $Q_{7,10}$. Fewer gages this week are experiencing 7 day averaged flows below the $Q_{7,10}$. We are monitoring permitted water withdrawals from Public Waters to ensure compliance with the permit limits.

Bathymetric surveys have been completed on three water supply lakes: LaHarpe, Carthage, and Vermont. Reservoir capacities of the remaining water will be determined. The capacity calculations will be provided to the ISWS for their analysis of the risk potential of these water supplies as the drought continues.

Vienna Correction Center has requested assistance with their water supply reservoir. Their lowest water intake is not operational. The Conservation Police utilized their sonar to show trees and sediment are blocking the intake. OWR will complete a site visit to investigate removing the debris and sediment at the lowest intake. The Conservation Police also collected water depth information from the lake which OWR will use to compute reservoir capacity of the remaining water supply. With the rainfall over the last 2 weeks, their reservoir level has remained steady.

Office of Land Management

All burn bans have been lifted. We have just completed a survey of all sites that pump for waterfowl hunting and found that surface moisture has improved dramatically statewide in the last 10 days or so. Some sites in the South that pump from deep wells have seen little improvement in subsurface water even to the point of being unable to pump from certain wells. We authorized pumping as needed yesterday but some sites will not pump for a while. Major lakes have risen making pumping possible. Only in the last few days has Rend Lake been high enough to pump. Rivers and streams in most areas are flowing better than they have all summer. In general we have seen improvement recently but still far short of anything like a surplus. Without the large amounts of additional rainfall, we are in extreme deficit in many places.

Office of Mines and Minerals

The Gateway Mine has remained operational. They did a number of things to get water. They trucked water into the site and also drilled a well into an old underground mine near them that was flooded and they pumped water out of that. The rains recently have helped restore their water supply.

STREAM 7-DAY FLOW AVERAGE FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2012



34 – Green River near Geneseo
 106 – Lake Fork near Cornland
 119- West Okaw River near Lovington